News Publishing DotNetNuke Module

User Manual

OnyakTech
DNN SOLUTIONS
Professional Modules

www.OnyakTech.com

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Novus News Publishing DotNetNuke Module

Novus is a news publishing module for DotNetNuke that was created to fill a need no other module provides. With Novus you can publish RSS Feeds in and out of your site, display messages across multiple portals, organize your articles into multi-level categories with images, automatic email notifications of new articles and so much more. You could even use Novus as a repository providing file downloads to specific roles while also allowing people to rate, comment and subscribe to your postings. To show an example of how Novus can be used, we created a web site that uses Novus to email people news as it's released on www.NewVus.com

Support

As on ongoing commitment to quality and perfection, all OnyakTech modules for DotNetNuke are constantly being revised to include additional minor changes as requested by our customers. Therefore; this document may be outdated by the time you read it. Please make sure you check for new releases by logging into OnyakTech.com and checking the My Downloads page in the Members tab. In the Members area, you will find information on every release as well as discussions on them in the Members Forums.

- **Web Based**: Go to www.OnyakTech.com, log-in and click on the Support page to submit requests. You can also submit support requests from the "My OnyakTech" page in the Members tab on OnyakTech.com
- **Email**: Email Support@OnyakTech.com. Your email will automatically get posted to the Support page on www.OnyakTech.com.

Event Log Reporting: If you suspect something is wrong with Novus, check your site Event Log. If a problem occurs in Novus, detailed information will be published to your Event Log that may include details on how to resolve the problem. If any information exist in your Event Log, include that information with your support ticket on OnyakTech.com.

Installation

Novus requires the OnyakTech Library 6.0. You will find the library included with the module package or you can also download it from www.OnyakTech.com in the My Downloads page (under the Members tab).

Installing Novus

Using the Module Definitions page in the Host menu of DotNetNuke, install the OnyakTech Novus module. If you are upgrading, install the new releases over your existing installation. The steps to install a module in DotNetNuke is below:

1. Make a backup of your DNN installation and database.
2. (Optional) Verify your web.config (see note below) for potential timeout issue
3. Log in as host on your DNN installation
4. Go to 'Module Definitions' under the host menu
5. Select 'Install New Module' from the module list's menu
6. Browse to and select the OnyakTech.Novus.xxx (Library xx).zip (or newer) and click upload. The first set of xxx is the version of the Novus module itself. The second set of xx is the version of the Onyaktech Library is required to be installed. So if your installing Novus version 1.0 that uses the OnyakTech Library 6.0, the file name would be "OnyakTech.Novus 1.0 (Library 6.0).zip".
7. Wait for all processing to finish.
8. The web page you're looking at should show you an installation report. Scroll down this report to check if there are any red text blocks signifying there were errors during install.
9. Create a new page on your site and add Novus to your new page from the DNN Control Panel visible at the top of every page.

Installing the OnyakTech Library

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are using .Net 3.5, you will need to make web.config change. For details, go to http://www.onyaktech.com/Members/MembersForums/tabid/67/forumid/134/postid/6746/view/topic/Default.aspx. You may also want to check the downloads on OnyakTech.com, at the time this document was prepared, a new version of the OnyakTech Library was being created specifically for the Microsoft .Net 3.5 Framework.

The OnyakTech Library is installed like any other module, you can use the same steps provided for installing Novus. If you have any problems installing the OnyakTech Library, follow the instructions below for Large File Uploads OR use the "Alternative Install" method mentioned below.

Alternative Install:

- OnyakTech.Library 6.0 (RX).zip (Install as a DNN Module)
- Library Components.ManualUpload 6.0.zip (Unzip and upload to files to your Bin directory manually)

Request Time-Outs and Large File Uploads

New versions of DotNetNuke include this change for you. But if your using an old version of DNN you may need to make these changes to install the OnyakTech Library. If you get "Request Time-Out" errors during the installation, modify your web.config as shown below. (This is not very common and if you need additional help with this, please contact OnyakTech Support from www.OnyakTech.com.) You will want to increase the executionTimeout attribute. If the file you are uploading is over 4MB, you will want to increase the maxRequestLength attribute as well. Most OnyakTech installs are below 4MB.

maxRequestLength : Specifies the limit for the input stream buffering threshold, in KB. The default value is 4096 (4 MB).

executionTimeout: Specifies the maximum number of seconds that a request is allowed to execute before being automatically shut down by ASP.NET. The default in .NET Framework 2.0 is 110 seconds. In the .NET Framework 1.0 and 1.1, the default is 90 seconds.

```
<configuration>
    ...
    <system.web>
    <httpRuntime maxRequestLength="102400" executionTimeout="3600" />
    ...
    </system.web>
    </configuration>
```

Setup the Novus Skin Object

The Novus Skin object displyas the last 40 published articles as scrolling panes with a text ticker and a clickable link showing the date the article was published. Hovering your mouse over the text will pause the scroller and clicking the link will display a popup showing the full article.

Complete the following to add the Novus Skin Object to a skin. As an example, this will show you how to add the Novus Skin Object to the default Minimal Extropy 1024 DotNetNuke skin.

1. Open the file index 1024.ascx located in …/Portals/_default/Skins/MinimalExtropy folder
2. Add the following to the top of the page after the first line: <%@ Register TagPrefix="onyaktech" TagName="Novus" Src="~/DesktopModules/OnyakTech.Novus/SkinViewArticles.ascx" %>
3. Somewhere in the remainder of the file, add <onyaktech:Novus runat="server" id="oktkNovus" TickerHeight=80 />
4. Save your changes. You should now see the Novus Skin object on your site if you have the Minimal Extropy 1024 Skin viewing on your site.

In summary, you need the following to register the skin object:

```
<%@ Register TagPrefix="onyaktech" TagName="Novus"
Src="~/DesktopModules/OnyakTech.Novus/SkinViewArticles.ascx" %>
```

Then you need to add the actual skin object to your skin where you want it displayed:

```
<onyaktech:Novus runat="server" id="oktkNovus" TickerHeight=80 />
```

Novus Skin Object Parameters

The Novus Skin object has the following parameters that you can set to control how information is displayed. To use any of these parameters you would just add it to the Novus Skin Object tag. For example, if you wanted to set the Window Height of the pop-up that displays the full article to 400 pixels then you would use the following:

<onyaktech:Novus runat="server" id="oktkNovus" TickerHeight=80 WindowHeight=400 />

Here is a list of available parameters:

- WindowWidth: Sets the popup window width
- WindowHeight: Sets the popup window height
- TickerWidth: Sets the width of the text ticker
- TickerHeight: Sets the height of the text ticker
- ScrollSpeed: Sets the scroll speed of each frame
- FrameTimeout: Sets the amount of time to display each article
- PauseOnMouseOver: (true/false) enables the pause on mouse over feature

Novus Settings

The first thing you should do after adding Novus to a page is update the Settings by clicking on "Settings" in the module menu. Even if you don't make any changes you should click "Update" on the Settings for the module to initialize for your site. All of the settings are defined below.

Security Settings

Novus adds additional security settings to the standard DotNetNuke module security permissions so that you can control security by role and user. These new security settings are..

- Approve Articles
- Create Articles
- Delete Articles
- Edit Articles

These additional security settings are setup the same as you would modify the View and Edit module permissions.

Additional Settings

The other settings in Novus are defined below. For the Template settings, you can use Tokens that define where specific information or images should appear in emails and within the module itself. All of these templates have the following tokens available to them. Note that in your templates, all tokens must include start and end brackets with the token itself in all capitals.

Novus comes with default templates preset in the module for you. You can use these as an example of how to use the tokens. These are visible in the module settings menu option.

Novus Template Tokens

- [DATEPUBLISHED]: Displays the date the article was officially published.
- [TITLE]: Displays the article title.
- [SUMMARY]: Displays the articles summary.
- [BODY]: Displays the article main body.
- [DATEAPPROVED]: Displays the date the article was approved.
- [DATECREATED]: Displays the date the article was first created.
- [EMAILCOUNT]: Displays the total number of people notified via email of the article.
- [DATEMODIFIED]: Displays the last time the article was modified.
- [KEYWORDS]: Displays the articles key words.
- [LASTVIEWDATE]:Displays the date the article was last viewed.
- [NEGATIVERATINGS]: Displays the total number of negative ratings for the article.
- [POSITIVERATINGS]: Displays the total number of positive ratings for the article.
- [PREMIUM]: Displays a “True” or “False” indicating the articles premium status.
- [REFERRALCOUNT]: <Not active in this release>
- [RELATEDWEBSITE]: <Not active in this release>
- [RELATEDWEBSITESNAPSHOT]: <Not active in this release>
- [VIEWCOUNT]: Displays the total number of people who read the full article.
- [ARCHIVEDATE]: Displays the date the article will be archived.
- [CREATEDBYUSERID]: Displays the creators User ID.
- [CREATEDBYUSERNAME]: Displays the creators User Name.
- [CREATEDBYDISPLAYNAME]: Displays the creators Display Name.
- [CREATEDBYAFFILIATEID]: Displays the creators Affiliate ID.
- [CREATEDBYFIRSTNAME]: Displays the creators First Name.
- [CREATEDBYLASTNAME]: Displays the creators Last Name.
- [CREATEDBYEMAIL]: Displays the creators Email address.
- [TITLELINK]: Displays the articles title as a link to the full article.
- [COMMENTS]: Displays the articles comments using the comments template you define.
- [VIEWCOUNTIMAGE]: Displays an image along with the total view count of the article.
- [TOTALVOTES]: Displays an image along with the articles total votes/ratings.
- [TOTALCOMMENTS]: Displays the total number of comments added to the article.
- [PREMIUMIMAGE]: Displays a “pin” if the article is marked as premium.
- [RATINGIMAGE]: Displays an image related to that total votes of the article. If there are more positive votes than negative, then a “thumbs up” image is displayed. Otherwise the “thumbs down” image is displayed.

Novus Comment Template Tokens

The Comment Templates in Novus have a different set of tokens that can be used, these are listed below:

- [DATEPUBLISHED]: The date the comment was added.
- [COMMENT]: The actual comment contents.
- [USERNAME]: The user name of the person who added the comment.
- [DISPLAYNAME]: The users display name.
- [FIRSTNAME]: The first name of the person who added the comment.
- [LASTNAME]: The last name of the user who added the comment.
- [EMAIL]: The email address of the user who added the comment.
- [LASTLOGIN]: The last date the user who added the comment logged into your site.

Novus Settings Defined

- Allow Email Subscriptions: Checking this option will display the option that allows people to subscribe to specific categories in Novus so that they are notified via email when a new comment or article is posted within the category they subscribed to.
- Allow File Attachments: Checking this option will allow authors to upload a file to be associated with the article and made visible for download when the article is published.
- Show Search: Checking this option will show the search bar at the top of the article listing.
- Enable URL Encryption: Checking this option will encrypt specific Query String parameters used by Novus. This adds additional security by making it hard for people to access articles they should not have access to. Note that there is an additional layer of security within Novus that checks user authentication. For example, if you copy the link for the “Submit New Article” link and post it onto another, log-off your site and then click that link you will be redirected to log-in.
- Allow Anonymous Users to Rate Articles: This option will allow any user to rate an article. Note that the users IP address is tracked, they will not be able to rate an article more than once each day.
- Allow Anonymous Users to Comment Articles: This option allows anyone to add comments to your articles.
- Articles Must be Approved Before Published: Checking this option will prevent articles from being published as soon as they are created and will trigger an email to be sent to all “Approvers” you set in the module Security Settings. Articles can be reviewed and approved from the “View Pending Approval” link.
- Allow articles to be published to other portals: Checking this option will allow people to select which portals the article will be visible on.
- Allow articles to be published to roles: Checking this option will allow people to select which roles the article will be visible to.
- Approved Article Email Subject: The email subject for Approval Emails.

- Approved Email Template: The email body for Approval Emails. This is the email that is sent to the creator when an article has been approved.
- New Article Email Subject: The email subject for new articles.
- New Article Email Template: The email body of emails sent when new articles are published. This is the email that is sent to the "Approvers" when a new article was created and is pending approval.
- Subscription Email Subject: The email subject of emails sent to subscribers.
- Subscription Email Body: The email content send to subscribers. This is the email sent to subscribers when an article is published, not when an article is first created.
- New Comment Email Subject: This is the email subject for new comments.
- New Comment Email Body: The new comment email content. This is the email that is sent to subscribers when a new comment has been posted to an article.
- Article Display Template: This is the HTML template that used when displaying the full article.
- Article List Item Display Template: This is the HTML template that is used to display a list of articles. This is the list you first see when using Novus that displays all articles.
- Article Comment Template: This is the HTML Template to use when displaying the comments at the bottom of the Full Article View.
- Send Email From Address: This is the email address used to send all emails from Novus.
- URL To Redirect After New Article Submit: This is the web address to redirect people to after they submit a new article. If you leave it empty, they will be taken back to the article listing in Novus.

Category Management

To manage the categories in Novus, click "Edit Categoris" module menu option. The first time you use Novus, you will see "Categories" listed as the top category node. This node can not be removed, but you can change the text for this node by editing the language resource files in the App_LocalResources folder where the module is installed (under DesktopModules folder of your DotNetNuke web site).

Create New Category

To create a new category, select the parent category you want it listed under. To list it at the root, select "Categories" from the Current Categories tree. Only the "Parent Category" and "Category Name" are required to add a new category to Novus.

- Category Name: This is the text that will be displayed for the category in the category tree.
- Category Description: This text will be displayed in the tool-tip (visible when you hover your mouse over the category).
- Key Words: The Key Words are not used in this releaes of Novus, but you may want to enter this information now so that you won't need to do it later once this feature is used.

- Category Image: This is the image that will be displayed next to the category in the Category Tree.
- RSS Feed URL: If you want this category to be populated from an RSS Feed, enter the URL of the RSS Feed into this text box.
- Allow Email Subscriptions: If you uncheck this option, Novus will not send subscribers email notifications about new articles or comments posted in this category.
- Is RSS Feed: Checking this option will enable Novus to import articles from the RSS Feed URL you provide and will automatically publish new articles to this category as they are posted to the RSS feed.

Update Existing Category

To update an existing category, select it from the Category Tree and click "Edit Selected Category". Make your changes and click "Update Category".

Remove Category

To remove an existing category, select it from the Category Tree and click "Edit Selected Category", then click "Remove Category". Note that doing this will delete all articles in this category as well as all data related to the articles. If you want to keep the articles, you should move the articles to a new category before you delete the category.

Creating New Articles with Novus

To create a new article in Novus, you must have Create permission. If you do, you will see a link to submit a new article at the top of the Novus module. Clicking the link will take you a screen where you can fill out the article details and submit it for approval. If you disabled the need for article approval from the module settings then the article will be published as soon as you submit it.

The **Title** and **Summary** of your article are published in the RSS Feeds from Novus. Your Summary should not be full length and not contain too many images (or none at all) otherwise your RSS Feed may be rejected from some sites.

The **News** field should contain your full article, this is what is displayed when people click to read your full article from the Novus Article listing and RSS Feed links.

The **Key Words** of your article should be relevant to the article content and delimited using a comma. An example is: DNN,DotNetNuke,Module. The Key Words and the Title of your article are used when searching for articles from the main screen of Novus.

Role Specific: If you checked the option to allow articles to be displayed to specific roles, you will see the "Role Specific" options. Clicking "+Roles" will expand the tree and display all roles for the current

portal. Note that this also applies to roles in other portals, but only the roles from the current portal are listed. If you want to secure by a specific role that is not in the current portal but in other portals, you should add that role to the current portal. You can select one or more roles. Leaving none selected will make the article visible to everyone.

Portal Specific: If you checked the option to allow articles to be displayed on specific portals, you will see the "Portal Specific" options. Clicking "+Portals" will expand the tree and display all Portals in your DotNetNuke web site. You can select one or more portals. Leaving none selected will make the article visible to everyone.

Categories: You must select the Category the article will be published to. To do this, expand the Category Tree and select the article from the list provided. If you don't see any categories then you must create categories by clicking on the "Edit Categories" module menu option before creating an article.

To attach a file to the article you must have enabled this from the Module Settings. If enabled, you will see a "Browse" and "Attach File" buttons that you can use to upload and attach to your article. Note that your article must first be saved before you can attach a file. Clicking "Attach File" will attach the file and save your article.

The **Priority Listing** option will make your article visible at the top of the article listing and displayed first in the Novus Skin Object. If multiple articles are "Priority Listing" (Premium) they will be sorted at the top of the list by the date they were published.

To **submit** your article, click "Submit" or "Cancel" to cancel out and abandon your article. If you set the option to require all articles to be approved, an email will be sent to the "Approvers" and your article will be listed in the "Pending Approval" list.

Approving Articles

To approve articles, click on the "Approve Pending Articles" link displayed at the top of the Novus module. If you don't see this option then you are not in a role that has access to approve articles.

The "Pending Approval" list contains information about each article and you will see links to view the article, edit the article and "Approve & Publish" the article. You can quickly approve the article by clicking the "Approve & Publish" link or by clicking the "Edit Article" link and approving it from the bottom of the article details screen.

You can retract an article from the Approved status at any time by clicking the "Retract" link visible under the article details in the Novus Article listing. This will reset the article status without deleting it and you can then edit and republish from the "View Approval Pending" link.

Novus RSS

Novus includes both outgoing and incoming RSS features. Each are detailed below.

Outgoing RSS

Novus generates an RSS Feed for every category as well as the last 40 articles published (regardless of category). To obtain the RSS Feed, click on the RSS Icon listed at the bottom right of the module. The RSS Feed you get depends on what you are viewing in Novus. When you first view Novus, the RSS Feed for the last 40 articles will be listed. When you click on a Category, the RSS Feed will change to match the category you selected.

Incoming RSS

Incoming RSS Feeds in Novus is controlled by the Categories. You must first create a category that is RSS enabled by providing the RSS Feed URL and checking the option "Is RSS Feed". Once you create a category that is an RSS Feed, Novus will open the RSS Feed and publish all articles from the RSS Feed to the category you created.

To sample this, create a Category named "OnyakTech", check the "Is RSS Feed" option and enter the following URL into the RSS URL field:

http://www.onyaktech.com/DesktopModules/Orizonti_NukeNews/getRSS.aspx?pid=0&tid=407&mid=1623&cnt=

(Note that the above RSS Feed from OnyakTech will change once we move over to use Novus for our news releases)

After you create the category, click Cancel and you will be taken to the main screen in Novus. At that point you should see the latest news from OnyakTech visible on your site.

Novus Incoming RSS

Novus includes a DotNetNuke Scheduler that will check all RSS enabled Categories for any updates available from original publishers. This scheduler is automatically setup for you and set to run once each day. If you are not using any RSS Categories then you should disable this scheduler, it won't do any harm having it enabled but why have it running if your not using it?

As new articles are published to the RSS Feeds, they will be published to Novus and any subscribers will get notified via email. If you setup categories that have frequently updated RSS Feeds, you may want to change the scheduler to run once every hour. But setting it to run once every minute is insane and completely overkill.

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A waiver by either party of any term or condition of this EULA or any breach thereof, in any one instance, shall not waive such term or condition or any subsequent breach thereof.

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If you have any questions about this EULA, or if you want to contact

ONYAKTECH for any reason, please direct all correspondence to:

ONYAKTECH, support@ONYAKTECH.com